Drop out rates of Bihar including Jharkhand for the year 2004-05

Stages	All categories of students	ST Students
Classes I-V	51.59 %	60.82 %
Classes I-VIII	74.69 %	76.20 %
Classes I-X	83.06 %	88.96 %

As per Census 2001, the Scheduled Tribe literacy rate of Jharkhand is 40.67%, out of which male literacy rate is 53.98% and female literacy rate is 27.21%.

(d) Under the various schemes of the Government, special provisions have been made to improve the retention of the tribal children in schools and improvement of the tribal human resource, which include:

- Relax norms of opening primary/middle schools in tribal areas.
- Abolition of tuition fees in all States in Government schools up to the upper primary level.
- Distribution of free text books, uniforms, stationary and school bags to ST students.
- Construction of Boys/Girls hostels for STs.
- Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas.
- Eklavya Model Residential Schools.
- Educational complex in low literacy pockets.
- Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of STs.

Adult education and literacy mission

766. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Knowledge Commission has, in a recent draft paper, suggested that the responsibility of adult education programmes should continue to be vested with the Central Government to prevent further deportation of the programme and also stressed the need to reinvent the national literacy mission so that it should be more vibrant and relevant to its target population;

(b) the details about the other suggestions made through the draft paper;

(c) the number of suggestions considered by Government; and

(d) the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) In respect of the Adult Education and Literacy Mission the National Knowledge Commission is in the process of holding wide stake holder consultations, internal deliberations and

research with a view to prepare a set of recommendations for submission to the Government.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

FDI in higher education

767. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers, set up to give recommendations on Foreign Direct Investment in higher education has recommended 50 per cent FDI in higher education and has suggested that only well-recognized and established universities both from the country and abroad should be allowed to set-up campuses in the country; and

(b) if so, by when a final decision for introducing amendments to be incorporated in the University Grants Commission Act in this regard would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The present policy of the Government permits Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% on the automatic route in the education sector. A legislative proposal on entry and operations of foreign educational institutions in the country is under consideration of the Government. Amendment of the University Grants Commission Act, is not contemplated, for this purpose.

Stopping of ragging

768 SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been unable to stop ragging completely in all the colleges and institutions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether inspite of Government's recent action to stop ragging, incidents like eve-teasing are increasing in colleges; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Eradication of menace of ragging is an ongoing effort. A publicity campaign for ragging free campuses has been launched by the Central Government. State Governments have been requested to step up vigil in regard to incidents of ragging. A Committee appointed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court also monitors the implementation of directions of the Apex Court in this regard.